

## State of Arizona

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## Governor Jan Brewer Signs Legislation to Combat Production, Use of Dangerous Drugs

Measure Bans Chemicals in Synthetic Marijuana, Bath Salts

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer today signed into law HB 2327, legislation that gives law enforcement officers another critical tool to attack the production and use of so-called "Spice," "K2" and other synthetic drugs in our communities.

Despite their danger, synthetic drugs are often marketed to teenagers and sold in convenience stores and on the Internet. The substances are typically smoked, inhaled, swallowed or injected in order to create a chemical high for the user.

Previous legislation combating this problem was frequently thwarted as underground chemists and drug-makers slightly modified the composition of their products in order to get around the law. With HB 2327, the basic chemical formulas themselves have been outlawed, regardless of any minor alteration.

"The production and use of these synthetic drugs is a growing epidemic in Arizona and nationwide, and poses a threat to our citizens," said Governor Brewer. "I applaud Representative Farnsworth for targeting the root of this problem and identifying a solution to help keep these dangerous drugs off our shelves and out of the hands of our young people."

Since HB 2327 included an emergency clause, it takes effect immediately.

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